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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
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## Georgia Public Service Commission

244 WASHINGTON STREET S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-5701  
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December 11, 1997

Office of the Secretary  
CC Docket No. 96-45  
FCC  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Notification to the FCC that a Compliant Intrastate Discount Matrix for Schools and Libraries has been Adopted by the Georgia Public Service Commission

Dear Sirs:

On July 1, 1997, the Georgia Public Service Commission (GPSC) rendered an Order adopting a Georgia discount matrix for services to schools and libraries. This action was taken in Commission Docket No. 7457-U as a result of a recommendation by the Commission Staff. This Order by the GPSC included an intrastate discount matrix that mirrored the discount for interstate services contained in the FCC's May 8, 1997 Report and Order (FCC Order No. 97-157, CC Docket No. 96-45). The GPSC's purpose in entering this Order and adopting the intrastate discount matrix contained therein was to enable Georgia's schools and libraries to receive all available discounts possible for telecommunications and telecommunications-related services.

In an effort to satisfy that which is required of the GPSC by the FCC in its Public Notice released September 29, 1997, and due before December 31, 1997, the GPSC is providing this correspondence along with a certified copy of its July 1, 1997 Order referred to above. This attached Order contains the "Georgia Schools and Libraries Discount Matrix" which satisfied the intrastate requirement placed on the GPSC. This matrix appears on page 10 of 13 of the attached GPSC Order in Docket No. 7457-U.

Please accept this letter, along with the above referenced attachment as official notification of Georgia's compliance via the adoption of this interstate discount matrix for discounts to schools and libraries for telecommunications services in Georgia. Please advise this office of any additional requirements.

Sincerely,

B.B. Knowles  
Director of Utilities  
Georgia Public Service Commission

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DOCKET NO. 7457-U

EXECUTIVE SECRET

### ORDER ADOPTING GEORGIA DISCOUNT MATRIX FOR SERVICES TO SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

**IN RE: Discounted Telecommunications and Related Services for Schools and Libraries  
Pursuant to Section 254(h) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996**

The Commission issues this Order to adopt a Georgia Schools and Libraries Discount Matrix for intrastate telecommunications and telecommunications-related services. This matrix of discounts mirrors a similar discount matrix for interstate services contained in the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") May 8, 1997 Report and Order (FCC Order No. 97-157, CC Docket 96-45), which we shall refer to as the "FCC Order." The FCC's purpose was to implement the Universal Service provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, including one at Section 254(h) providing for discounted services to schools and libraries. This Commission's purpose in adopting the Georgia Discount Matrix is to enable Georgia's schools and libraries to receive all available discounts for telecommunications and telecommunications-related services.

The schools and libraries who are eligible to receive the discounts are public as well as private not-for-profit schools and libraries. The services that are subject to the Discount Matrix are the following:

- All types of telecommunications services from telecommunications carriers,  
including local and long-distance (toll)
- Internal connections (inside wiring) for telecommunications,  
including enabling access to the Internet
- Internet access services

The FCC program includes the latter two categories of services, even if provided by non-telecommunications carriers who may team in joint ventures with telecommunications carriers. The discounted services may be under new contracts (including new extensions of existing contracts) using competitive bidding, or existing contracts if the charges are for usage of telecommunications or information services, or installation or maintenance of internal connections, after the effective date of the discounts. The discounts will be for annual calendar years beginning January 1, 1998. For new

and existing contracts, therefore, the discounts will be effective for services delivered and used after January 1, 1998.<sup>1</sup>

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### **I. THE FEDERAL PROGRAM**

#### **A. Universal Service Support for Schools and Libraries** **in the 1996 Federal Act**

The Telecommunication Act of 1996 set the stage for a new era in telecommunications by introducing an unprecedented level of competition, as well as providing that subsidies to support universal service be made explicit. Congress directed and encouraged the FCC and State regulatory commissions to establish support mechanisms to ensure affordable telecommunications services with special emphasis for low-income consumers, eligible schools and libraries, rural health care providers, and consumers in areas such as rural communities that are relatively costly to serve.

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<sup>1</sup> The FCC indicated that under existing contracts, the discounts might also be effective for services delivered and used after the effective date of the new federal rules, which is expected to be July 17, 1997. However, this possibility is subject to further clarification by the FCC and it is likely that coverage under existing contracts will be for new services beginning January 1, 1998.

Discounted services to schools and libraries are thus among the Act's objectives. Specifically, Section 254(h)(1)(B) provides as follows:

EDUCATIONAL PROVIDERS AND LIBRARIES. - All telecommunications carriers serving a geographic area shall, upon a bona fide request for any of its services that are within the definition of universal service under sub-section (c)(3), provide such services to elementary schools, secondary schools, and libraries for educational purposes at rates less than the amounts charged for similar services to other parties. The discount shall be an amount that the Commission [FCC], with respect to interstate services, and the States, with respect to intrastate services, determine is appropriate and necessary to ensure affordable access to and use of such services by such entities.

**B. FCC's Universal Service Order**

On May 8, 1997, the FCC released its Universal Service Order by adopting with some modifications the recommendations of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service.<sup>2</sup> The FCC Order provides among other things for the funding of both interstate and intrastate discounts for the following services to public and not-for-profit private schools and libraries:

- (1) all telecommunications services, including broadband services;
- (2) internal connections (inside wiring), including hubs, routers, local area network (LAN) file servers (and the software necessary for file server operations), wireless LANs, and their installation and maintenance; and
- (3) Internet access services.

No additional state funding for these discounts is required. However, the FCC conditioned the availability of the federal universal service support for schools and libraries upon the states adopting intrastate discounts at least as high as the FCC's interstate discounts.

The FCC adopted a matrix containing a range of school and library discounts from 20 to 90 percent, depending both upon the percentage of students eligible for the national school lunch program and upon a school's or library's location (urban versus rural). The FCC determined that these two factors would serve as appropriate indicators of a school's or library's relative disadvantage and need for discounts. More weight is given to the percentage of students eligible for the national school lunch program, and each school must certify eligibility based upon this percentage for either

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<sup>2</sup> By issuing this Order, the Commission does not waive any of its rights to request reconsideration or seek judicial review of any matters contained in the FCC Order. See O.C.G.A. § 46-5-168(f).

the school or its school district. Each library must determine this percentage for the school district in which it is located. The second factor is whether the school or library is in a rural location, since rural areas have higher costs of providing the telecommunications and related services. Whether the location is urban or rural is based upon its relationship to the metropolitan statistical areas ("MSAs"). The highest discounts (90 percent) are available for both urban and rural schools and libraries where 75 percent or more of the students are eligible for the lunch program.

The FCC ordered that eligible schools and libraries submit applications directly to the administrator of the Universal Service Fund. The FCC is expected soon to name the National Exchange Carriers Association ("NECA") as the interim administrator, who will have responsibility for public notifications through a Web site on the Internet's World-Wide Web. It is also expected that the application forms will be available in mid-July, 1997, and that schools and libraries must submit those forms along with copies of the contracts or service agreements for which they seek the discounts. Upon approval, the schools and libraries will only have to pay the discounted prices to the service providers. (In the case of multi-year contracts, the discount will only apply to current year charges; the school or library must reapply each year.) It is the service provider who will obtain reimbursement of the discount amount from the universal service support mechanisms.

### **C. Eligibility and Restrictions**

The Act at Section 254 places four restrictions on schools and libraries receiving the discounted services. The first relates to eligibility. Schools, both public and private, must meet the statutory definition of an elementary or secondary school found in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, must not operate as a for-profit business, and must not have an endowment exceeding \$50 million. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(4).

A library or library consortium must be eligible for assistance from a State library administrative agency under the Library Services and Technology Act ("LSTA") (Pub. L. No. 104-208, *see* Section 213), and must not operate as a for-profit business. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(4). The FCC clarified the eligibility of libraries further in its Order. While the LSTA definition will be used, a library's eligibility for the universal service funding of the discounts will depend on its funding as an independent entity. Thus an academic library will be eligible only if its funding is independent (its budget is completely separate) of the funding of any institution of higher education. Similarly, because elementary and secondary schools with endowments exceeding \$50 million are not eligible for universal service support, a library connected to such a school will be eligible only if it is funded independently from the school. Community college libraries are eligible for support if they meet the definition as discussed above, and meet the other requirements of Section 254(h).

The second restriction is that telecommunications services and network capacity provided to schools and libraries under Section 254(h) may not be sold, resold, or otherwise transferred by the school or library in exchange for money or any other thing of value. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(3). This

prohibits any resale whatsoever of the discounted services to ineligible entities.<sup>3</sup> Third, Section 254(h)(1)(B) requires that schools and libraries make a "bona fide request" for the eligible services. Fourth, any such services requested by schools and libraries must be used for "educational purposes." See 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(1)(B).

#### **D. Grouping into Consortia**

Schools and libraries can be independent entities, or grouped into consortia with other schools and/or libraries, and still remain eligible. For libraries, the definition of a "library consortium" in the LSTA<sup>4</sup> is used with one modification (to eliminate "international cooperative association of library entities") to be consistent with Section 254(h). All eligible schools and libraries are permitted to enter into consortia with other schools and libraries (and with rural health care providers and governmental customers).<sup>5</sup> Therefore all members of a consortium, including those ineligible for universal service support, can benefit from lower pre-discounted prices as a result of statewide, regional, or large group contracts. However, only the eligible members of the consortium will be able to receive the added benefit of the discounts funded by universal service support.

When schools and libraries enter into a consortia with other, ineligible schools and/or libraries, the prices for services not actually used by the eligible entities for educational purposes will not be reduced below the contract price. Those portions of the bill representing charges for services purchased by or on behalf of, and used by, an eligible school, school district, library, or library consortium for educational purposes will be reduced by the discount percentage to which the eligible entity is entitled under the Discount Matrix. The service provider will collect the discount amount from the universal service support mechanisms.

Institutions that receive discounts under the program will be expected to maintain records adequate to provide documentation for future audits or verifications to ensure program integrity.

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<sup>3</sup> If eligible schools, libraries, or consortia amend their approved service contracts to permit another eligible school or library to share the services for which they have already contracted, this would not be prohibited resale, as long as the discount level for the services corresponds to the discount to which the eligible entity actually using the services is entitled. See FCC Order at ¶ 567.

<sup>4</sup> Under the LSTA, "[t]he term 'library consortium' means any local, statewide, regional, interstate, or international cooperative association of library entities which provides for the systematic and effective coordination of the resources of school, public, academic, and special libraries and information centers, for improved services for the clientele of such library entities." Pub. L. No. 104-208, § 213(3).

<sup>5</sup> Other entities can also join, but then the pre-discount prices of any interstate services to the consortium must be generally tariffed rates (that is, the pre-discount prices may not be below tariffed rates). Because Georgia has similar policies against non-discriminatory pricing, which underlie this decision of the FCC, this Commission proposes to apply the same pricing policy for the intrastate pre-discount prices. See FCC Order at ¶ 477-478.

## **E. The Application Process**

The FCC Order established a general framework for the application process which is described in this Order. Additional implementation details will become available when the FCC appoints the fund's administrator.<sup>6</sup> The FCC Order's general framework provides that schools and libraries, either individually or in consortia, must submit application forms directly to the Fund Administrator. These applications will be processed and funded on a first-come, first-served basis, with some adjustments that can be made in the unlikely event that requests exceed the funds available. The FCC will also require certification of certain criteria to help confirm eligibility. The application forms are not yet available as of the date of this Order, but are expected to be available from the Fund Administrator in mid-July, 1997.

The supported services, which include telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections, can be provided by telecommunications carriers and non-telecommunications carriers. Schools and libraries may procure the supported services either separately or as bundled packages. If packages of services include non-supported as well as supported services, then the supported (discounted) services must be priced separately from the non-supported (non-discounted) services.

Applications must be submitted on an annual basis; that is, funding for the discounts will only be approved for one calendar year at a time. Schools and libraries that have received discounted services in one year may re-apply for discounted services in subsequent years.

The FCC rules permit schools and libraries to begin using the discounted services on January 1, 1998. Schools and libraries may begin applying to the administrator (currently expected to be NECA) for this funding when the forms are available, which is planned to be in mid-July, 1997. It is expected that after an initial round of applications are received during the opening window of time for the program, the funding will be then be made available on a first-come, first-serve basis, subject to the national cap of \$2.25 billion per calendar year.<sup>7</sup> The application process and approval for discounts will be handled through the Fund Administrator. The FCC is expected to appoint the Administrator soon, and to announce additional guidelines for the Administrator.

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<sup>6</sup> Currently, the interim Fund Administrator is expected to be NECA. In addition, the FCC will require the administrator to select a subcontractor to manage the application process, including dissemination and review of applications for service and maintenance of the Web site on which applications for service will be posted for competitive bidding by carriers.

<sup>7</sup> If available funds fall below \$250 million for a given year, then the Fund Administrator must apply special prioritization rules in approving further requests. These prioritization rules generally give preference to the most disadvantaged schools and libraries, and to those which have not received discounts for other than basic local telephone service in previous years under the program. See FCC Order at ¶ 535-540, 542.

## **1. Existing Contracts**

The discounted services may be under existing contracts if the charges are for usage of telecommunications or information services, or installation or maintenance of internal connections, after the effective date of the discounts. The discounts will be for annual calendar years beginning January 1, 1998. Therefore, the discounts will be effective for services delivered and used after January 1, 1998.<sup>8</sup> Once again, any package of services that bundles supported services with other services that are not eligible for discount support must show separate prices for the services that are eligible for support (telecommunications services, internal connections, and Internet access services, which are used for educational purposes and meet the other requirements described previously).

Schools and libraries applying for discounts for services to be provided under existing contracts must submit an application form with a copy of the existing contract(s), directly to the Fund Administrator. Once again, the FCC has projected that the application form will be developed and available through the administrator in mid-July, 1997.

## **2. New Contracts**

For new contracts, the discounts are to be effective for services provided after January 1, 1998. The FCC projects that the necessary forms will be available in mid-July, 1997. New contracts for eligible services may be conditioned upon the schools and libraries obtaining final approval for the discounts from the administrator. Schools and libraries (or consortia as discussed above) must submit to the administrator a request form signed by the procurement official(s) authorized to order telecommunications and other supported services for the school or library. The request must include a complete description of the requested services so the administrator can post it on the Internet Web site for competing providers to evaluate. Providers will submit bids in response to these posted requests. The services must thus be obtained through competitive bidding,<sup>9</sup> although this does not replace any existing competitive bidding rules that may apply to schools' and libraries' procurement of telecommunications services and the related Internet access and connections. Therefore the schools and libraries may submit their own formal, detailed Requests for Proposals ("RFPs") if

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<sup>8</sup> The FCC Order indicates that under contracts negotiated and signed prior to November 8, 1996, the discounts may also be effective for services delivered and used after the effective date of the new federal rules, which is expected to be July 17, 1997. However, this possibility is subject to clarification by the FCC on two points: (1) whether the effective date will be July 17, 1997 or January 1, 1998; and (2) what effective date will apply for contracts negotiated and signed during the time period after November 8, 1996, and before new contracts are signed using the new competitive bidding procedures beginning approximately July, 1997.

<sup>9</sup> The FCC and Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service were concerned, among other things, that many schools and libraries may be unaware of cost efficiencies available through the use of wireless and other innovative technologies. FCC Order at ¶ 479.



consistent with state or local acquisition requirements, or may submit less formal descriptions as long as sufficient detail is included to allow providers to evaluate the requests and submit bids.

The school, library, or consortium will retain the right to choose the provider(s) of their requested services. They are not required to take the lowest-priced bids. The FCC stated that price should be the primary factor, but that schools and libraries should have the flexibility to take into account service quality, and to choose service offerings that meet their needs most effectively and efficiently, consistent with their own procurement rules.<sup>10</sup>

Schools will also submit the percentage of their students eligible for the national school lunch program. Libraries will submit the percentage of students eligible for the national school lunch program in the school districts in which they are located. The administrator will use this information to calculate the amount of the applicable discount, and will also post it on the Web site to help providers to calculate the applicable discounts when submitting bids. Schools and libraries must wait at least four weeks after posting on the Web site before signing a contract and sending it to the administrator's subcontractor, along with an estimate of the funds needed for the current funding year and to be requested for the following funding year. The administrator's subcontractor will have responsibility for committing the necessary funds and notifying the requesting school or library that its funding has been approved.<sup>11</sup>

Once the school, library, or consortium including such eligible entities has received approval of its purchase order, it may notify the provider to begin service; and once it has received service from the provider, it must also notify the administrator to approve the flow of universal service support funds to the provider. Again, in the case of multi-year contracts, the school or library must re-apply for each calendar year for the funding of the discounts by the administrator. Therefore it may be prudent to use contingency provisions for multi-year contracts, so that the commitment to take the supported services in each year of the contract is contingent upon receiving the administrator's approval for funding of the discounts in each year of the multi-year contract.

### **3. Approved "Technology Plan"**

Eligible schools and libraries are required to conduct internal technology inventory assessments, often referred to as "Technology Plans." This requirement of an approved Technology Plan is not intended to replace technology plans that schools and libraries already develop through existing administrative processes. The FCC will require independent approval of the Technology Plan, ideally by a state agency that regulates schools or libraries. Plans that have been approved for other purposes, such as for participation in federal or state programs such as "Goals 2000" and the Technology Literacy Challenge, will be accepted without need for further independent approval.

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<sup>10</sup> (FCC Order at ¶ 481.)

<sup>11</sup> (FCC Order at ¶ 579.)

Generally, the person authorized to make the purchase for a school or library will need to review what telecommunications-related facilities the school or library already has or plans to acquire. In this regard, applicants must at a minimum provide the following information, to the extent applicable to the services requested:

- (1) computer equipment currently available or budgeted for purchase, and the speed of any associated modems;
- (2) the internal connections, if any, that the school or library already has in place or has budgeted to install, or any specific plans relating to voluntary installation of internal connections<sup>12</sup>;
- (3) computer software necessary to communicate with other computers over an internal network and over the public telecommunications network, currently available or budgeted for purchase;
- (4) the relevant staff's experience and training in the use of equipment, and training programs for which funds are committed;
- (5) existing or budgeted maintenance contracts to maintain computers; and
- (6) the capacity of the school's or library's electrical system to handle simultaneous uses.

Schools and libraries must have plans for using these technologies and integrating them into their curriculum. The FCC will also require schools and libraries to certify that they have funds committed for the current funding year to meet their financial obligations in their technology plans. Further detail is contained in the FCC Order,<sup>13</sup> and is expected to be available through the Fund Administrator when the forms are available.

## **II. GEORGIA DISCOUNTS FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES**

### **A. Georgia Schools and Libraries Discount Matrix**

It is reasonable and appropriate for the Commission to adopt intrastate discounts corresponding to those established by the FCC. In order for schools and libraries in Georgia to obtain the benefit of the federal universal service supported discounts, Georgia must adopt intrastate discounts at least as high as those in the FCC's Order. These discounts range from 20 percent to 90 percent for all telecommunications services, Internet access and internal connections used by eligible schools and libraries. The range of discounts is correlated to students' eligibility for the national

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<sup>12</sup> For example, NetDays. NetDay is a grassroots volunteer effort to wire schools so they can network their computers and connect them to the Internet. Labor and material are provided by volunteer support from companies, unions, parents, teachers, students, and school employees. See <http://www.netday96.com> (Web site with general information on NetDays); see also FCC Order at ¶¶ 454, 572, & n. 1181.

<sup>13</sup> E.g., FCC Order at ¶ 572.

school free and reduced lunch program and urban or rural location based on metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs).

The discounts for telecommunications services are to be applied to the service providers' pre-discount prices. A provider's price can be no higher than the lowest price offered by that carrier to similarly situated non-residential customers for similar services. Any disputes about whether the pre-discounted price is at the lowest appropriate level shall be submitted to this Commission for resolution.

The Commission determines that it is reasonable and appropriate to adopt discounts for intrastate services to schools and libraries that match the federal level of discounts adopted by the FCC. Therefore the Commission adopts the following as the Georgia Discount Matrix for schools and libraries, to mirror the FCC's discount matrix:

GEORGIA SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT MATRIX			
HOW DISADVANTAGED?		DISCOUNT LEVEL	
% of students eligible for national school lunch program	(estimated % of US schools in category)	urban discount (%)	rural discount (%)
<1	3	20	25
1-19	31	40	50
20-34	19	50	60
35-49	15	60	70
50-74	16	80	80
75-100	16	90	90

The carriers in Georgia and consequently their customers in Georgia will be major contributors to the federal universal service fund whether or not the Commission adopts these discounts on the intrastate side. If Georgia were not to adopt at least this level of discounts, Georgia's schools and libraries would lose the opportunity for these valuable services.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Any state that wished to adopt smaller discounts would be required to obtain a waiver from the FCC. See FCC Order at ¶ 551. At the same time, this Commission is unable to adopt larger discounts, because larger discounts would require additional new funding at the state level, which this Commission does not have the authority to mandate.

In order to obtain the benefit of these discounts for intrastate services, schools and libraries or consortium groups only need to follow the administrative processes and guidelines described previously, as established by the FCC and to be implemented by the Fund Administrator.

The only time that a school, library, or consortium would need to do anything other than follow the applications process implemented by the Fund Administrator would be in the event of a dispute over the appropriate pre-discount price. For any dispute over the appropriate pre-discount price for interstate services, the school, library, or consortium (or the potential provider) would seek resolution from the FCC. For any dispute over the appropriate pre-discount price for intrastate services, the school, library, or consortium (or the potential provider) would seek resolution from this Commission.

#### **B. Determination of the Pre-discount Price**

The method of determining a provider's pre-discount intrastate price shall be the same as that provided in the FCC Order. The first step is to look at whether the school or library is applying for discounts to be applied to an existing contract, or to a new contract. As described previously, schools and libraries must use a competitive bidding type of process. The service providers' prices must be no higher than their prices for comparable services to non-residential customers. The Commission notes that these pre-discount prices must also reflect (*i.e.*, be reduced by) any other discount program that may be applicable.

Telecommunications carriers are not required to file new tariffs. Instead, the discounts will be applied to existing tariffs, and to prices offered during the competitive bidding process, as appropriate. A service provider's price offered for new services must be the lower of a competitive bid price, or its lowest tariffed prices for comparable services to non-residential customers in the relevant geographic area. This pre-discount price is the total price the providers are entitled to receive. The schools and libraries will pay the provider only the discounted price, with the carrier receiving the residual amount from the Universal Service Fund support mechanism, as approved by the Administrator. The Commission will consider, in any rulemaking or on a case-by-case basis as appropriate, additional guidelines to resolve any intrastate pricing issues that may arise, in order to facilitate these discounts to schools and libraries.<sup>15</sup>

### **III. IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **A. Timing of the Implementation**

Georgia's schools and libraries should prepare for submitting applications to the Fund Administrator as soon as possible. These applications must include a copy of the existing contract (if the application is for future services under an existing contract) or a copy of the request for

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<sup>15</sup> See FCC Order at ¶¶ 483, 485, 487-491.

services for new contracts, certifications of eligibility, and certifications regarding the Technology Plan. Schools and libraries should also determine what level of discounts they may be eligible to obtain, using the Discount Matrix in this Order. Applications can be submitted as soon as the forms are available, which is expected to be in mid-July, 1997.

The Commission does not expect that any telecommunications carrier or any other entity will be prejudiced by the issuance of this Order at this time. The proceedings at the Federal-State Joint Board and the FCC have been extensive for a long period of time, with comments submitted by numerous parties including services providers within Georgia. In addition, the Commission is under a time constraint to adopt this Order and notify potential applicants so they may begin to submit their applications as soon as NECA is prepared to receive them. The Commission retains jurisdiction of this proceeding to issue any further orders as the Commission may determine necessary and appropriate, including any other matters that appear necessary to effectuate these discounts for Georgia schools and libraries.

**B. Ordering Paragraphs**

- The Commission concludes that adopting the Georgia Schools and Libraries Discount Matrix at this time, as discussed in this Order, will benefit the schools and libraries in Georgia and will facilitate their applications for discounted services pursuant to Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

**WHEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:**

- A. The Commission adopts the Georgia Schools and Libraries Discount Matrix as appears above, and all subsequent adjustments or revisions to this Discount Matrix that may be made by the FCC, for the purpose of enabling Georgia's schools and libraries to receive all available discounts for telecommunications and telecommunications-related services.
- B. The discounts adopted in this Order shall be effective at the same time that the interstate discounts for schools and libraries adopted by the FCC shall become effective, including the FCC's clarifications as to the effective date for services to be provided under existing contracts.
- C. All findings, conclusions, and decisions contained within the preceding sections of this Order are hereby adopted as findings of fact, conclusions of law, and decisions of regulatory policy of this Commission.
- D. A motion for reconsideration, rehearing or oral argument or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

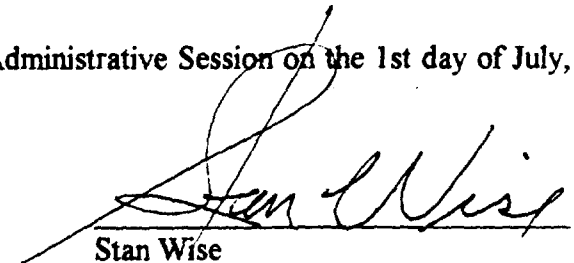
E. Jurisdiction over these matters is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order or Orders as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 1st day of July, 1997.



Deborah K. Flannagan  
Executive Director

7/1/97  
Date

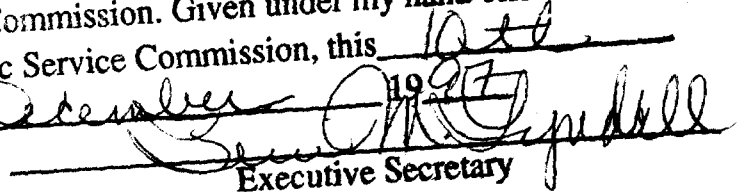


Stan Wise  
Chairman

7-1-97  
Date

**GEORGIA, FULTON COUNTY,**

I Terri M. Lyndall, Executive Secretary of the Georgia Public Service Commission, do hereby certify that the foregoing document is a true and correct copy of the original thereof, which is on file with the Commission. Given under my hand official seal of the Georgia Public Service Commission, this 10th day of December 1997

  
Executive Secretary